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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/032,556

01/02/2002

Youngs Wong

SUND 252

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7590

10/06/2006

RABIN & BERDO, P.C.

Suite 500

1101 14th Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20005

EXAMINER

GIBBS, HEATHER D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/032,556	WONG, YOUNGS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Heather D. Gibbs	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-17, 19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. The Advisory Action, filed 09/05/2006 has been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-6, 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hino et al (US 6,002,906) in view of Yong (US 5,854,670)

For claim 1, which is representative of claim 11, Hino discloses an image reading device for reading documents to be processed continuously and outputting a plurality of image information, said image reading device comprising: a continuous reading controller switch for receiving a continuous reading instruction of a user and outputting a control signal; and a control unit for controlling said image reading device and receiving said control signal to implement continuous reading and outputting operations of said image reading device (Col 6 Lines 24-29) ; wherein when said continuous reading controller switch is activated by the user, said control unit drives said image reading device to read a page of a packaged document placed at a reading position (Col 5 Lines 49-54; Fig 2; Col 6 Lines 31-37).

Hino does not disclose expressly wherein after a time period predetermined by said control unit to allow the scanned page to be manually turned over by the user,

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another page of the packaged document placed at the reading position is then continued to be read.

Yong discloses wherein when said continuous reading controller switch is activated by the user, said control unit drives said image reading device to read a page of a packaged document placed at a reading position (Col 6 Lines 45-59); and wherein after a time period predetermined by said control unit to allow the scanned page to be manually turned over by the user, another page of the packaged document placed at the reading position is then continued to be read (Fig 19; Col 6 Lines 37-45)

Hino & Yong are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, continuous image readers.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Yong with Hino.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to allow scanned pages to be turned over by the user.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Hino with Yong to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1,11.

For claim 2, which is representative of claim 12, Hino teaches a time adjuster to adjust the time period between two adjacent operations of image reading (Col 9 Lines 1-3).

Regarding claim 3, which is representative of claim 13, Hino teaches wherein said time adjuster further comprises a speedup button and a slowdown button to decrease and increase the time period respectively (Col 8 Line 66-Col 9 Line 3)

For claim 4, which is representative of claim 14, Hino teaches wherein, said time adjuster further comprises a rotator to adjust the time period (Col 9 Lines 4-15).

Considering claim 5, which is representative of claim 15, Hino discloses further comprising a detector for outputting a reading signal to said control unit to initiate the reading operation of said image reading device when no action within a predetermined period after the scanned page is turned over is detected (Col 10 Lines 28-34).

Regarding claim 6, which is representative of claim 16, Hino discloses further comprising a plane for loading the document to be processed, said detector being positioned under said plane (Fig 1).

4. Claims 9,19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hino et al (US 6,002,906) in view of Yong (US 5,854,670) and further in view of Okisu et al (US 5,159,187).

Hino discloses the image reading device as described above.

Hino does not disclose expressly an indicator for informing the user to turn over the page.

Okisu discloses an indicator for informing the user to turn over the page (Col 6 Lines 60-66).

Hino, Yong, & Okisu are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Hino and Yong with Okisu.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to inform the user when to turn the page over.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Okisu with Hino and Yong to obtain the invention as specified in claims above.

5. Claims 7,10, 17,20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hino et al (US 6,002,906) in view of Yong (US 5,854,670) and further in view of Ikeda et al (US 6,325,368).

Hino discloses the image reading device as discussed above.

Hino does not disclose expressly wherein said indicator is selected from a group consisting of an audio-indicator, a light-indicator and an audio-light-indicator.

Ikeda discloses, for claim 7, which is representative of claim 17, an audio-receiver for receiving an audio signal and outputting a reading signal to said control unit to control the reading operation of said image reading device (Col 11 Lines 6-24; Figs 12-13). Ikeda discloses, for claim 10, which is representative of claim 20, wherein said indicator is selected from a group consisting of an audio-indicator, a light-indicator and an audio-light-indicator (Col 11 Lines 6-24).

Hino, Yong & Ikeda are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, continuous image readers.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Ikeda with Hino and Yong.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to have a visual and audio alert system.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Ikeda with Hino and Yong to obtain the invention as specified in claims 10,20.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 8,18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Examiner found no prior art cited in its entirety, nor found any reason to combine said prior art which teaches, a stepping controller, wherein the user steps on said stepping controller to output a reading signal to said control unit for controlling the reading operation of said image reading device.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather D. Gibbs whose telephone number is 571-272-7404. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thu 8AM-7PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Heather D Gibbs
Examiner
Art Unit 2625

hdg



THOMAS D.
~~LEE~~
PRIMARY EXAMINER